## REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-13, 16, and 18-21 are currently pending in the application. Claims 2, 6, 14, 15, and 17 have been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended by adding the substance of now-canceled Claims 2 and 6. Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, and 12 have been amended to depend from Claim 1 instead of from Claims 2 and 6. Claim 16 has been amended by addition of the substance of now-canceled Claim 17. Claim 19 has been amended by changing "system" to "method" in line 1 to correct an informality. Since the amendment incorporates the substance of dependent claims, it should not raise new issues, and it should be entered in the case since it places Claims 1, 3-5, 7-13, 16, and 18-21 in condition for allowance.

### The Claimed Invention

The claimed invention provides, *inter alia*, for the broadcast of comments, by a speaker participating in a teleconference via communication satellite 11, to conference call participants' subscriber terminals 15 capable of receiving satellite communication signals. Key features distinguishing the three independent claims of the claimed invention from the references include, without limitation:

- As amended, independent Claim 1 (from which Claims 3-5 and 7-13 depend) provides for centralized control by a chairperson, while the references do not.
- As amended, independent Claim 16 provides for a conference center for a participant having a receiving terminal including only a receiving function to said communication satellite, while the references do not.
- As originally stated, independent Claim 18 (from which Claims 19-21 depend) provides means for receiving a voice request signal of a participant having a receiving and transmitting terminal and a comment signal from a participant to whom a voice is granted via a ground communication network.

In rejecting Claims 1, 3-5, 7-13, and 16-21, the Examiner essentially restated the grounds of rejection presented in the previous office action: (a) rejecting Claims 1, 4-5, 7-12, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,930,473 to Teng et al.; (b) rejecting Claims 3 and 18 as unpatentable over Teng et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,289,377 to Lalwaney et al.; (c) rejecting Claim 13 as unpatentable over Teng et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,330,671 to Aziz; and (d) rejecting Claims 19-21 as unpatentable over Teng et al. in view of Lalwaney et al. and further in view of Aziz. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 1, 3-5, 7-13, and 16-21, as discussed in the response to the previous office action (which is incorporated herein by reference) and as discussed more fully below.

Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-12

The Examiner has rejected independent Claim 1 and dependent Claims 3-5 and 7-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Teng et al., according to which there is a video server connected to transmission media, which may include satellite television, to broadcast a signal from multiple live or previously-stored video streams. (Teng et al., column 6, lines 37-56; Teng et al., Claim 5) Video teleconferencing is taught as a potential application. (Teng et al., column 1, line 62) The invention disclosed by Teng et al., however, is completely different from Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-12 in structure and technology, and in the field of use.

According to Claim 1, *comments of a speaker participating in a conference* are broadcasted, while in Teng et al. it is *live and previously stored video to and from other networks* which are broadcasted (Teng et al., column 6 lines 38-40). The nature of the signals transmitted through the satellite is completely different.

While the Examiner has argued that this view amounts to a reading of the Applicant's specification into the claims (Office Action at 14), it is inescapable that Claim 1 clearly requires:

> a content of a *comment of a speaker participating in a conference* is broadcasted, via a communication satellite, to a plurality of conference participants each having a satellite communication terminal including

receiving means for receiving a signal from said communication satellite. (Claim 1, lines 3-6) (emphasis added) Claim 1, as amended, further requires that the *conference center is connected to a satellite earth station*, thus clearly defining the central role of the conference center and the satellite network in the claimed invention. In Teng et al., on the other hand, the role of the satellite network is not central but ancillary, as is clear from the fact that the server 12 of Teng et al. *may also mediate* video transmission via satellite *using suitable arranged transceivers* (Teng et al., column 5, lines 52-54.). Figure 1 of Teng et al. also shows that the video server 12 is not directly connected with the transceiver 20 but is instead connected through LAN switch 13 and client 14-5.

Finally, Claim 1, as amended, requires that the conference is to be mediated by a chairperson, which is not provided for in the references. In the system taught by Teng et al. the *current presenter* allows a *next presenter* to broadcast on the network and sends a command signal to the requesting viewer client. (Teng et al., column 12, lines 39-46) In Claim 1 of the claimed invention, by contrast, it is the *chairperson* that designates the *next speaker* and lets the next speaker broadcast "the voice grant signal via said communication satellites." The next speaker does not become the chairperson according to Claim 1, but the next presenter does become the current presenter in Teng et al.

Claims 3-5, and 7-12 should be allowed as depending from allowable Claim 1.

Claim 16

The Examiner rejected independent Claim 16, as originally stated, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Teng et al.; in addition, the Examiner rejected now-canceled Claim 17, the substance of which has been added to Claim 16, under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Teng et al. in view of Lalwaney et al. Neither Teng et al. nor Lalwaney et al., however, provide "a receiving terminal including only a receiving function to said communication satellite." (Claim 16, lines 11-12)

Teng et al. provide a video server connected to transmission media, which may include satellite television, to broadcast a signal from multiple live or previously-

stored video streams. (Teng et al., column 6, lines 37-56; Teng et al., Claim 5) Video teleconferencing is taught as a potential application. (Teng et al., column 1, line 62) Lalwaney et al. provide systems with one-way adapters, including "cable modems, wireless modems, and satellite modems" (Lalwaney et al, column 3, lines 64-64), which may be configured to allow a personal computer to receive data using a first communication path (such as cable television, broadcast television, or satellite television) while transmitting data using a second communication path (such as a telephone line).

Because neither Teng et al. nor Lalwaney et al. provides a conference center for a participant having a receiving terminal including only a receiving function to said communication satellite, Claim 16 is not anticipated or suggested by either Teng et al. or Lalwaney et al. and is not obvious over a combination of Teng et al. and Lalwaney et al.

Claims 18-21

The Examiner found independent Claim 18 to be unpatentable over Teng et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,289,377 to Lalwaney et al., according to which systems with one-way adapters, including "cable modems, wireless modems, and satellite modems" (Lalwaney et al, column 3, lines 64-64) may be configured to allow a personal computer to receive data using a first communication path (such as cable television, broadcast television, or satellite television) while transmitting data using a second communication path (such as a telephone line).

The Examiner has misapprehended Applicant's argument with regard to Claim 18 as going to the question of whether it is likely that Lalwaney et al. would be combined with Teng et al. Even if the references were combined, however, the result would not be Claim 18, because the claim provides a method for receiving a voice request signal of a participant having a receiving and transmitting terminal and a comment signal from a participant to whom a voice is granted via a ground communication network.

As a general matter, communication networks tend to be based on common principles and therefore tend to share basic traits in terms of structure and operating principles. Innovations, however, lie in the realization of new useful functions resulting from new combinations of existing elements. Thus, essential differences between the claimed invention and the cited references lie in the different functions accomplished by the systems as a whole, as described below.

Lalwaney et al. teach how to integrate access to the Internet through two different networks, such as an ISP phone network and an MSO/cable operator's network. (Lalwaney et al., Figure l). In the claimed invention, these problems do not arise because communication takes place only between the conference center and the participants. Because the problems addressed by Lalwaney et al. do not present themselves in Claim 18, the solutions presented by Lalwaney et al. do not anticipate the Claim 18.

Claims 19-21 should be allowed as depending from allowable Claim 18.

In addition, the Examiner found Claims 19-21 to be unpatentable over Teng et al. in view of Lalwaney et al. and further in view of Aziz. Again, the Examiner has misapprehended Applicant's argument as going to the question of whether it is likely that the references would be combined instead of whether such a combination would result in the claimed invention. A combination of Aziz with Teng et al. and Lalwaney et al. would not result in Claim 19-21.

Claims 19-21 involve the use of cipher and decipher keys in connection with the claimed invention, while the invention disclosed by Aziz provides a method and system for secure distribution of cryptographic keys on multicast networks. The problem addressed by Aziz is that "[u]nfortunately, existing key management techniques often use a single server, sometimes referred to as a group coordinator or GC, to distribute the traffic keys or key encrypting keys associated with multicast transmission. The GC maintains secure key distribution but can be overwhelmed if the requests are too frequent or too numerous." (Aziz, column 2, lines 40-45) The system disclosed by Aziz solves the problem described above through distributed "seeds" key distribution methods.

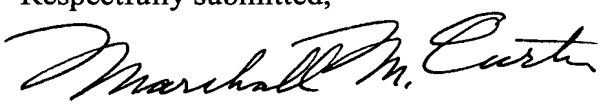
Claims 19-21, by contrast, provide a satellite conference method with a highly centralized structure around the conference center which connects the satellite broadcasting network with the back-way network including satellite and terrestrial networks. In terms of encryption the conference center in the claimed invention plays the part of GC in the disclosure of Aziz. That is, the encryption system structure of the claimed invention is nothing but the GC whose problem Aziz tries to solve. *Therefore it is apparent that the technology disclosed in Aziz is irrelevant to the claimed invention.*

## Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all of the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed.

Applicant hereby makes a written conditional petition for extension of time, if required. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041 (Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson).

Respectfully submitted,



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